REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification and claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 14 have been amended and claims 15-16 have been added. No new matter is presented by the specification and claim amendments and, accordingly, entry and approval are submitted to be proper and are respectfully requested. Claims 5, 6, and 8-13 stand in condition for allowance, claims 1-4 stand objected to, and claims 7 and 14 stand rejected.

Claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration.

CHANGES TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Changes have been made to the specification only to place it in preferred and better U.S. form for issuance. No new matter has been added as there is support for the changes in portions of the specification and drawings as originally filed.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

In the Office Action, at page 2, independent claim 1 is objected to due to informalities and claims 2-4 are objected to because they depend from independent claim 1. Independent claim 1 has been amended to improve clarity and to resolve the objections presented in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objections to the claims be withdrawn and, accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that claims 1-4 stand in condition for allowance.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

In the Office Action, at page 2, claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of Fujimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,498,593) ("Fujimoto"). This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Fujimoto fails to teach or suggest, "two of the data electrodes having a meandering shape being arranged for each column of the matrix display," as recited in independent claim 7. Rather, according to the structure described in Fujimoto, cell positions are not aligned in neighboring columns.

Ribs 7 of Fujimoto are for partitioning a "discharge space-between the front glass substrate 1 and the back glass substrate 6 into multiple narrow grooves for use as unit regions for light emission, known as 'sub-pixels,' while at the same time defining the exact dimensions of such discharge space." (Column 7, lines 37-57) The ribs 7 may be subjected to color

development during manufacturing processes for contrast enhancement purposes.

However, contrary to the assertions made in the Office Action, the ribs 7 of Fujimoto are provided to partition the discharge space formed between the substrate. The ribs 7 of Fujimoto fail "to make each of the two data electrodes **interactable** with the scan electrodes and not **interactable** with the scan electrodes, **alternately**, for a predetermined number of rows," emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 7.

In other words, the purpose of the Fujimoto ribs 7 is to "permit both an odd-numbered line Is discharge region to be spatially continuously associated with an even-numbered line discharge cell's discharge region at an intersection formed between the even-numbered display line L_{2n} and even-numbered display line's address electrode Ab." (Column 8, lines 48-56) Fujimoto thus fails to teach or suggest that the purpose of each rib 7 is to function as a barrier "to prevent discharge between respective ones of the data electrodes and of the scan electrodes so as to make each of the two data electrodes interactable with the scan electrodes and not interactable with the scan electrodes, alternately, for a predetermined number of rows," as recited in independent claim 7.

In addition, Fujimoto fails to teach or suggest that each rib 7 extends "parallel to the data electrodes and between the columns to prevent discharge between respective ones of the data electrodes and of the scan electrodes so as to make each of the two data electrodes interactable with the scan electrodes and not interactable with the scan electrodes, alternately, for a predetermined number of rows," as recited in independent claim 15. (See also FIG. 3 of the present invention) Rather, each rib 7 extends "from a cross point between an odd-numbered display line and the second selection electrode to a cross point between an even-numbered display line and the first selection electrode." (Abstract)

Because independent claims 14-16 includes similar claim recitations as those recited in independent claim 7, although of different scope, the arguments presented above supporting the patentability of independent claim 7 are incorporated herein to support the patentability of independent claims 14-16.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 7 and 14-16 be allowed.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot and further, that all

pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. At a minimum, this Amendment should be entered at least for purposes of Appeal, since it either clarifies and/or narrows the issues for consideration by the Board.

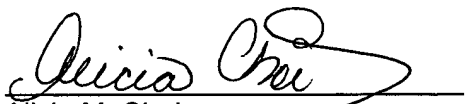
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited and possibly concluded by the Examiner's contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss any such remaining issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: ____June 11, 2004_____

By: 

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